THE EXAMINER.

No. 10. *SUNDAY, MARCH 6*, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 10.

RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS WITH RESPECT TO POLITICS AND NEWS.

One cannot help smiling to think of the numberless folios which have been written on the art of politics. Mankind really seem to have imagined, that it was extremely difficult in the precept as well as practice; and from Confucius to Plato, from Plato to Justinian, from Justinian to Machiavel, from Machiavel to Montesquieu, a thousand extravagant praises have been bestowed upon political scribblers. I cannot discover, for the life of me, what peculiar talent could have been found in such writers. Some of them may be allowed to possess a shade of imagination, but what are called your sound politicians must evidently be very inferior men, for they confess they have nothing to do with either enthusiasm or fancy; and what is genius without these qualities? Nay, they absolutely acknowledge that they estimate little but experience and mere matter of fact. I only wish, that the newspaper politicians were confined to matter of fact for a few months, and we should soon see what would be the fate of political composition.

It has been said by philosophers, that the end of instruction is to elevate man to wisdom; but I think that he is a much nobler teacher who brings down wisdom to man. It would be much happier for the mind if it could be wise without exertion, and I really cannot see much art in this boasted ascension to knowledge. It is very well to go up the stairs of St. Paul's to examine the cross, but it would certainly be much better if one could whistle the cross down. For this reason, I have endeavoured to simplify the rules of newspaper politics, and instead of making my readers toil up a ladder, like Gulliver, to read gigantic folios, have reduced this sublime science to the most inexcursive and unambitious comprehension.

1. *OF POLITICAL ATTACHMENTS.*

You must absolutely be a party-man, or you are neither a true editor nor a true patriot. Patriotism consists in a love of one's country, and a love of one's country is certainly not a love of it considered in it's earthly qualities, not a love of muddy Brentford or calcareous Margate, but an attachment to the best men in the country. Now the best citizen is he who would do most good to his fellow-citizens, and as every man must judge for himself, the best statesman is he who offers you the best place. It becomes you, therefore, to support him on every occasion, and particularly when he is wrong; for who would expose the errors of his friend?

2. *OF EDITORSHIP CONSIDERED ABSTRACTEDLY FROM PROPRIETORSHIP.*

If you are proprietor as well as editor of your paper, you have the truly English freedom of saying what you please for your patron: but if you are editor only, it becomes you to say every thing which the proprietors may dictate, and nothing to which they may object. This restriction may appear hard, but in difficult times you must be hardened to meet difficulties; you are the servant of the proprietors, and inclination must be sacrified to duty. What is called spirit will not pay your bills. The man who digs for money must of necessity stoop very low to find it.

3. *OF POLITICAL CONTROVERSY.*

It is manifest, that every man who differs with your favourite leader must be miserably defective either in his head or his heart, but most likely in both. This is so self-evident, that it requires no argument. As to those insipid hypocrites, who pretend to be of no party, avoid them as so many newspaper outlaws, who are cut off from the social bustle of dispute. A writer of no party must be of no feeling, or at any rate a gross libeller on the public, for he must either have no capability of attachment or he must plainly tell the public, that there is not one of all their favourites who is worthy of entire co-operation. Give therefore no quarter to any writer of any party or of no party: if you wish to produce a revolution in political opinion, you must be strenuous and ardent. The principle of the lever has nothing to do with moving the human mind. You must oppose ponderousness to weight and rage to violence. The heaviness of some papers and the fury of others will afford you excellent examples. But above all, never lay yourself open to what is called conviction: you might as well open your waistcoat to receive a knock-down blow. A man will shut his eyes to an ugly sight, and I should be glad to know why he may not shut them to an uncomfortable argument. Give all the blows you can and receive none: newspaper controversy is a true battle; the soldiers have no business to argue about reason, they must only do all the mischief possible. In fact a play-

ful moderation in politics is just as absurd as a remonstrative whisper to a mob. I have heard of a lad who nibbed one of his long nails and wrote with it, and as he most probably wrote very badly, I dare say that from this circumstance a bad penman is said to write a fist. Now you must write with your fist, that is, you must always argue by personal attack. Would you attempt to conquer a prize-fighter by chucking him playfully under the chin? Then how would you conquer the *Belchers* and *Game Chickens* of newspaper controversy but by opposing to them the *Gullays* and the *Gregsons!* Your sentences must be so many metaphorical bruises; if you cannot reach your adversary's head, aim directly at his heart, and in the intervals of the battle amuse yourself by calling him names. If a man could save his country by being vulgar, who would be a gentleman? The greatest reformers, such as LUTHER and CALVIN, have shewn a very proper contempt for mere refinement. If LUTHER, in the gaiety of his ardour, calls CALVIN a *fool* and an *ass*, CALVIN, in the consistency of his argument, calls LUTHER a *hog*, *beast*, *wretch*, *madman*, and *devil*. I would recommend to you three exquisite sentences of the Genevese Doctor as a specimen of warrantable energy: he says to LUTHER, after a few convincing arguments, "Do you mind me, you dolt? Do you hear what I say, you madman? Do you listen to that, you great beast?"* I will be judged by any body, whether, with the exception of a little want of christian spirit, these figures of speech are not the exact models of a spirited disputation.

4. *OF INVENTION IN NEWS.*

The art of newspaper politics certainly cannot rank among the polite arts, but nevertheless it requires almost as much fancy as poetry or painting. This is peculiarly apparent in the periodical accounts of battles. A skilful editor shall describe heroes, dispose of armies, and dispense victories and defeats with all the fire and invention of HOMER. If your favourite statesman is in office, it is your business to announce nothing but victories; if he is out, conquest must vanish with him. While you are in opposition, you must lament the total want of foresight in Ministers, their useless expeditions and senseless expenditures, and you must praise the French Emperor: while you are ministerial, you must insist and swear, not forgetting to stake the credit of your paper, that the country is in the best of all exquisite situations, that the expeditions will settle the balance of the world, that the opposition is an infamous faction, and that NAPOLEON is a Corsican tyrant and usurper. If the enemy gains a decided victory, you will swear that the two armie parted, but certainly with an advantage on our side: if the two armies really part, you have nothing to do but to gain a victory. At the beginning of a campaign however you must always gain victories. It is an indispensible rule. If you hear, for instance, that the French and Russians are about to meet, be certain that the French are defeated with great slaughter, and announce the intelligence in capitals worthy of the occasion, as thus, DEFEAT AND SURRENDER OF THE WHOLE OF THE GRAND FRENCH ARMY. I need not tell you to use a smaller type when you are in opposition, that is, provided you are simple enough to say any thing to the credit of Ministers. At such a season, pomp is unsuitable both to a manly grief and to a proper enjoyment of victory. If you should be so bashful as to feel awkward, when the victories you have announced for the Ministry prove to be defeats, you have an excellent answer to all complaints in the reply of that admirable statesman STRATOCLES, who arrived at Athens from a naval defeat, put a chaplet on his head, and made all the citizens feast and sacrifice in honour of the glorious victory; and when the shattered fleet arrived two days after, and the people called upon him to answer for his imposture, cried out, "Why you will not quarrel with me for having given you two days of jollity?" PLUTARCH calls this impudence; but it is evident, that he knew as little of true policy, as our newspaper politicians know of him.

5*THLY AND LASTLY, OF EDITORIAL SENSIBILITY, OR OF BEING HAPPY TO HEAR AND SORRY TO STATE.*

Great geniuses are always men of great feeling. If you keep all your frowns and your terrors for your enemies and rivals, you must preserve all your smiles and tears for the interesting occurrences of the fashionable world. Home news is the most pathetic thing in the world, and an Editor never appears to such advantage as when, like HOMER's *Andromache*, he smiles and weeps at one instant. Thus if in one paragraph you exclaim with vivacity "We are happy to hear that the Duke of QUEENSBURY has recovered from his fit of the gout"—in the next you will probably observe with pathos "We are sorry to state that serious apprehensions are entertained of the life of the illustrious Officer, who after having dined very heartily on Thursday last, slipped down upon the ice as he was passing through King's-place." Again, if you very naturally rub your hands in another paragraph, and cry out "We are sincerely happy to hear that the Marchioness of S—— was *not* thrown from her horse in the act of spurring the animal," you will have every reason to shake your heads in the next and exclaim "We are sincerely sorry to state that the Right Hon. Lord B. was thrown out of his curricle and terribly bruised. His legs were found to be quite black."

Thus then with talents for disputation, talents for fiction, and talents for weeping and smiling, no Editor need be afraid of being quite poor, provided he does not become an honest man.

☞

* This is quoted from memory, but it is not the smallest exaggeration.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, FEB. 2.—They write from Bourdeaux, under the date of the 28th of January, that the four French frigates, which were in Garonne, have put to sea, as well as the Rochefort squadron, which consists of five ships of the line and two frigates.

GERMANY.

FRANKFORT, FEB. 6.—We are assured that the troops of the Princes of the Confederation of the Rhine have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to march at the first notice. Perhaps they are destined to replace the French troops in Dalmatia, in case these should be obliged to march to India. According to the latest intelligence, the English have possessed themselves of all the Islands in the Archipelago.

PRUSSIA.

KONINGSBERG, JAN. 21.—Orders have been sent by their respective Courts to the Russian and Prussian Ministers at Copenhagen, to make the strongest remonstrances against the violent proceedings of the Danes in the Baltic, and against the jurisdiction they have assumed over Russian and Prussian ships. The misery that exists in these parts now almost beggars description, particularly at Dantzic, where the exactions of the French daily increase; many of the necessaries of life are difficult to be got, and a total want of salt is soon to be apprehended. The poor Prussians have been under the necessity of prohibiting the importation of it from England, but in Russia it is still allowed to come direct from thence.

SWEDEN.

GOTTENBURGH, FEB. 15.—The accounts from Stockholm, lately received, stating that Russia had declared war against Sweden, appear to have been premature, for though that event is to be expected, it has not yet taken place, neither have the Russian and Danish Ministers left Stockholm, nor the Swedish Minister St. Petersburgh. Every preparation is making in Swedish Finland to oppose any attempt that may be made against it. On this side the gr a est activity prevails. The Swedish fleet in Carlscrona, consisting of twelve sail of the line, is nearly ready for sea.

FEB. 20.—The French to the number of 40,000 men are marching for Zealand, and the first division was to leave Lubeck on the 12th. Bernadotte was at Copenhagen making the necessary arrangements.

FEB. 22.—Letters from Helsingburgh received today, state, that the object of the above army is not to go to Zealand, but to march through Jutland, and from thence embark for Norway, and by this route enter Sweden. We are more than ever impatient for the arrival of an English fleet to watch their motions. All accounts seem to corroborate their being on the march through Holstein.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, FEB. 16.—We learn by letters from Vienna, that the Russian troops in Italy, who were under orders to return to Russia, have received counter-orders, in consequence of the Emperor Napoleon finding it necessary that they should for the present remain in Italy.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A horrid murder was committed on Friday se'nnight, at Halland, in the parish of Wootten Waven, Warwickshire, on the body of John Booth, jun. The deceased was found in the stable, with five or six wounds on the head, and skull fractured, lying near to the horses' heels. A Coroner's inquest was taken, and sat the whole of Saturday and Monday, to ascertain the cause of his death, when they returned a verdict of wilful murder; and, dreadful to relate, on Tuesday his brother was committed to Warwick gaol, on suspicion of being the perpetrator of the horrid act!

A melancholy instance of suicide occured, on Saturday morning last, at Bristol:—A gentleman of respectability, from Bath, who had been on a visit at a friend's house in that city, cut his throat, and otherwise lacerated himself in a shocking manner. The unfortunate gentleman had been confined to his room for some days through illness; and, at ten o'clock on the above morning, the servant girl, hearing him groan, looked through the key-hole of his chamber-door, and discovered him weltering in his blood. Medical assistance was procured, but the wounds he had inflicted on himself were such as to occasion his almost immediate death.—A Coroner's Inquest was held on the body the same day, when it appeared that he had before, on several occasions, discovered strong symptoms of mental derangement. Verdict, Lunacy.—The deceased was 70 years of age.

At Newbury, on Tuesday morning last, a greyhound almost tore off the nose of a child, about three years of age; soon after, he bit a man in the hand, almost through; and it is feared he has bitten many other persons. He was at length killed. Seven persons who have been bitten, about Newbury, passed through that town in a caravan about a week since, on their way to the salt water at Southampton.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY.—The state of the season since our last has still continued unfavourable to the young wheats, especially such as were put into the ground at a late period, and they would without doubt have been very materially injured, particularly those which were in a forward and very luxuriant state of growth, had it not been prevented by the snow with which they have been covered and protected during a great part of the month. Considerable mischief must, however, be sustained in many situations where the land is of a loose light nature, from the sudden alterations from frosts to thaws, in the latter sown crops, in consequence of the roots being thrown out of the soil. This we know to have happened in particular instances in some of the southern districts of the kingdom, as well as those of the north.—The sharp dry winds and frosts in the latter part of the month have given a favourable check to the too luxuriant vegetation of some crops of this kind.

ASSIZES.

TRIAL OF SIMMONS, THE MURDERER.

HERTFORD, FRIDAY, MARCH 4.—*Thomas Simmons* was indicted, for that he at Broxbourn, on the 20th of October last, did make an assault on Sarah Hummerstone, and wilfully gave her a mortal wound in the neck with a knife, of which she instantly died. This is the case of the inhuman wretch who murdered the two unfortunate women at Hoddesdon.—The Court was crowded at an early hour in the morning to hear the trial. It did not last long, as the facts lay in a very narrow compass.

Sarah Harris, servant of Mr. Borebam, said she had lived four years with him; Simmons, the prisoner, had

lived there three years, and quitted it last Michaelmas: the prisoner wished to marry her, but her mistress disapproved of it; they had quarrelled before he quitted the service—on which occasion he beat her; and when he had done he said he did not care if he had killed her. He has often said he would make away with her, because she would not marry him. About half past eight in the evening of the 20th of October he came to the House—she was in the kitchen, and heard him coming along the yard; he was swearing violently. He came up to the window and struck at her through the lattice, and swore he would do for them all. She desired him not to make a noise, as they had company: he said he did not care for the company, he would do for them all. Mrs. Hummerstone hearing the noise, opened the room door and came to the yard. She told him to go away. He gave her a blow on the head, which knocked off her bonnet; she ran into the house, and he immediately followed her. The witness immediately heard the shricks of murder, but did not know from whom. All the family were in the room. The three young ladies, Mr. Boreham's daughter, Mrs. Warner, the married daughter, Mr. Boreham and his wife, and Mrs. Hummerstone. In a short time the prisoner came to the wash-house to her; she shut the door, and cried out murder. The witness ran into the sitting-room—she saw some one lying under the window—she ran from thence down a passage—the prisoner followed her—she there met her master with the poker in his hand; in running hastily, her master, who is very old and feeble, was knocked down. The prisoner caught her and threw her down, and drew a knife on her. He threw her across Mrs. Warner, who was lying dead, she believed. He drew the knife across her throat, but she guarded it with her hand, which was cut. He made a second blow, when she wrested the knife out of his hand. He immediately ran away, and she saw no more of him.

Thomas Copperwheat went in search of the murderer. He discovered Simmons concealed under some straw in a crib in the farm-yard; the place where he was found was about 100 yards from the house.

Benjamin Rook, the Coroner, said, when the evidence of Harris was read to the prisoner, he said it was very true, he had murdered them, and no one else. He added, that he did not intend to have murdered Mrs. Hummerstone, but he went with an intention of murdering Mrs. Boreham, Mrs. Warner, and Harris, the maid-servant.

The Constable who carried him to prison, deposed to the same effect. The prisoner also told him, that when he had got Betsey down, he heard something fluttering over his shoulders, which made him get up and run away.

The prisoner being called upon to know if he had any thing to say, answered in a *careless tone*—No!

Mr. Justice HEATH told the Jury the case was so very clear that it was unnecessary for him to address any observations to them; the prisoner, as they had heard, had more than once confessed his guilt.

The Jury found him *Guilty*; and the Learned Judge immediately pronounced the sentence of the law—that he should be *hanged on Monday next*, and his body anatomised.

It is a matter of curiosity to inquire what are the features which mark a wretch of such horrible principles. The pictures published of him in town do not by any means convey a correct idea of his person. He is not so old as represented, nor has he that yellow cadaverous appearance; on the contrary, he has a very young look, and a good countenance, being rather a well-looking young man than otherwise. He heard the sentence of death with great indifference, and walked very coolly from the bar. The young girl, whom he attempted to murder, was in great agitation, and was obliged to be supported while she was in Court.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, FEB. 29.

The Brazil Trade Bill, and Treasurer of the Navy Regulation Bill, were read a third time.

Lord HAWKESBURY brought down a Message from his Majesty, recommending the settling of a pension of 2000l. a year on Lord Lake, in consideration of the eminent services performed by his father.

On the motion of Lord ST. JOHN, the House entered into a discussion of the merits of the Orders in Council.—The Noble Lord, after a speech of some length, moved a string of resolutions strongly reprehensive of their policy. The previous question was however moved and carried by a majority of 99.—A Protest, signed by a considerable number of Peers, was entered on the Journals against this decision, and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1.

The Ten Millions and Half Exchequer Bills Bill, and Petty Customs Surveyorship Abolition Bill, were read a third time and passed.

Lord HAWKESBURY moved an Address to his Majesty in answer to his Message, relative to a settlement of a Pension on Lord Lake, and the two next heirs to that title. In stating the grounds upon which he called on their Lordships to express their concurrence, in promoting his Majesty's wishes upon this subject, he took a brief survey of, and highly panegyrised, the services of the late Lord Lake in America, Ireland, and India.—The motion was agreed to *nem. dis.*

REVERSIONARY GRANTS ABOLITION BILL.

Lord LAUDERDALE moved for the reading of certain passages of his Majesty's Speeches on the 27th of April and 20th of June, 1807, respecting the enquiries carried on by the House of Commons, with a view to economy in the public expenditure. This proceeding having taken place, his Lordship stated the history of the Reversionary Grant Abolition Bill of last Session, and commented on the circumstances under which it had been negatived by their Lordships. He anticipated a more favourable event to that now on the table. The Committee of the House of Commons had found their plans of economy both here and in Ireland impeded to a great extent, in various Departments, by the multiplicity of Grants in Reversion. By stopping the progress of this evil, an opportunity would be secured of abolishing such of those offices as were mere sinecures, and of better regulating such as might be made efficient. Instead of abridging the prerogative or influence of the Crown, this reform would practically be found to enlarge them in a way which would prove beneficial to the public interests. His Majesty would then be enabled to provide for old and faithful servants, without many of the additions which were now necessarily made to the pension list. The circumstances of the times loudly called for economy, and the measure would have the effect of reconciling the people to the very heavy burthens under which they laboured.

Lord ARDEN knew that the part which he had taken on a former occasion, and which he would now again take, in reference to this measure, might be liable to misconstruction. He could only say, and those who knew him would give him credit for the assertion, that in opposing it he was solely actuated by a sense of public duty. He could not see how any saving was to arise from it, while to him it most evidently appeared to trench upon the prerogative.

Lord SPENCER gave the most ample credit to the Noble Lord who had just spoken, for the purity of his motives in resisting the Bill. He would, however, support it, not so much from any consideration of its immediate advan-

tages in point of economy, as from a regard to the circumstances in which it had originated, and its tendency to correct in future a practice open to many abuses, and evidently fettering and diminishing the power of the Crown, in the distribution of its rewards for public services.

The LORD CHANCELLOR thought the Bill too vague and general to pass in its present state. It excepted the Courts of Chancery and King's Bench, it was true; but there were difficulties in other departments also, which must be duly weighed. The Bill, to be effective in the views of those who framed it, must go to certain offices in possession, as well as those in reversion; for if it was objectionable that an infant should obtain an office in the latter mode, it surely was equally so that he should be susceptible of an office by an immediate grant. If, on the other hand, the framers of the Bill looked to offices which were effective, and required skill or professional capacity, he would tell them that the grant of such offices were void in law, unless the grantee, at the time of taking them, was duly qualified to discharge the duties belonging to them. He would, however, vote for the second reading, in order to try whether the Bill could not be so modified in a Committee as to render it less objectionable than it now was.

Lord HAWKESBURY concurred in the view taken of the Bill, as it now stood, by his Noble and Learned Friend; but he principally regarded it as nothing more than a proposition to suspend the exercise of the prerogative, in granting certain offices in reversion, until Parliament should have full time to consider the various possible retrenchments in the whole of our financial system. In this light he was disposed to prefer it to the mode of influencing the Crown by the separate Address of either House of Parliament.

Lord GROSVENOR argued in favour of the Bill, from the regard which was due to the deliberately expressed opinion of the other House of Parliament, and the unanimous expectation of the nation. At such a crisis as the present, it was peculiarly important to adopt a measure which was universally considered as a preliminary to a general system of wise economy. The effect with respect to the Crown, would be to strengthen instead of weakening its power of rewarding substantial services. The prerogative, as he learnt from constitutional writers, was a power vested in the Crown to act for the general welfare, where the law was silent; but where the law *spoke*, prerogative was *dumb*. The prerogative was subject to modification, diminution, or extension, by legislative enactment, founded on the basis of public expediency. Admitting that the measure would limit the sphere of reward to which the power of the Crown now extended, the only consequence would be, that Parliament must be applied to in the way of granting pensions; and this was to him and to the public the preferable mode of rewarding merit. By the system of reversionary grants the public money was given away *sub silentio*, and in the shades of night. By the contrary system, by proposing the remuneration in the face of day, the public would be able to appreciate the value of the services proposed to be rewarded; and he must do that justice to his countrymen, that their feelings in such cases were not actuated by a niggardly economy.—Who among them grudged the splendid mansion, the magnificent establishment of the descendants of the Duke of Marlborough? Who grudged the rewards possessed by the present Lord Chatham, in consideration of the eminent services of his illustrious father? Who grudged the testimony of respect which had been paid to the memory of Mr. Pitt?

Lord WESTMORELAND thought the Bill an infringement of the prerogative.

Lord REDESDALE was of the same opinion. He disapproved of the system pursued by the other House, in reference to this measure, as tending to legislate by Address. If such a course were to be pursued, their Lordship's house would become useless, without the necessity of a formal resolution. He therefore felt himself bound to give the Bill his decided negative.

Lord HOLLAND argued in support of the Bill, as emanating from the Committee of the other House, whose labours had twice been panegyrized from the Throne.

The Duke of MONTROSE was decidedly hostile to the Bill.

Lord DARNLEY spoke shortly in favour of it. He particularly adverted to the gross abuses which had occurred in Ireland.

The House divided—for the 2d reading, 61.—Against it, 52.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3.

COPENHAGEN.

Lord DARNLEY moved the Order of the Day for taking into consideration the motion of which he had given notice, relative to the attack on Copenhagen. He entered at large into the circumstances of that transaction, and contended that, while Ministers withheld from Parliament the secret information which they pretended had occasioned it, no other description could be given of it, than that of its being an unjust, outrageous, and impolitic attack on a neutral and friendly nation. If the view which was taken of it by the Noble Lords on his side of the House was not sanctioned by the majority of their Lordships, they would at least, by making it a subject of distinct discussion, have an opportunity of recording their sentiments in a Protest, which he would confidently predict would accord with the partial decision of history. His Lordship concluded with moving a long Address to his Majesty, comprising the principal topics on which he had touched in the course of his speech.

Lord ELLIOT thanked the Noble Lord for having thus brought the affair of Copenhagen in a substantive form before the House. The result would, he hoped, set the matter finally to rest, and give Ministers and Parliament leisure for turning their attention from the past to the present and the future. His Lordship then justified the expedition upon the old grounds. Viewing the subject in this light, and conceiving that their Lordships and the country at large coincided in his opinion, he thought the House should not merely give a negative to the Address of Censure now proposed, but should, in just gratitude to Ministers, pass a Vote of Approbation. His Lordship concluded with reading a Resolution to the effect just stated,

Lord HOLLAND contended, that Ministers had tarnished the character of the country by a gross act of injustice. Their subsequent offers to Denmark added insult to injury. It was that of a highwayman, who would say to the object of his depredation, "Now, my good fellow, let us be friends; hush up this business; I have a mortal aversion to Courts of Justice; but, remember, I will keep your purse." His Lordship then proceeded to shew, that instead of diminishing the dangers, we had increased them, by placing under the direction of France the whole of the resources of Denmark, and what was more important, the exasperated feelings, the hearts, and the good-will of her population. If the motion of his Noble Friend was rejected, he should recommend it to the House to address the Throne in the words of a Spanish Statesman, which, according to Lord Bacon, had some *salt* in them. The Spaniard gave his Sovereign this comfortable assurance—"Your Majesty has only two enemies, the whole world, and your own Ministers."

On a division, Lord Darnley's motion was negatived by 110 by 51; and Lord Elliot's carried by 125 to 57.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4.

The House, after transacting some routine business, adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, FEB. 29.

LORD LAKE.

Lord CASTLEREAGH stated that he now came forward with a Resolution, in obedience to the King's Message, and he trusted there would be little difficulty in persuading the Committee to agree to what he should propose, as such grants had always been the practice of Parliament to bestow, especially upon men distinguished for splendid military abilities—these abilities having been crowned with success. A reason might be stated, why such an application as the present had not been made before, and it was this; the services performed by Lord Lake were in India and prior to his Majesty investing him with a peerage. His Majesty was therefore not aware of the necessity for the application, or that the situation of Lord Lake, in India, required any pecuniary aid or support to maintain and uphold the dignity conferred on him. Another thing ought to be stated on behalf of the late Lord Lake, the liberality of one branch of the Royal Family had rendered him reluctant to press upon the country. Lord Castlereagh went on to describe the heroic atchievements of Lord Lake, in early life, in America; in Europe, at Lincelles; and finally, in Asia. His spirit, intrepidity, and personal bravery, were exemplary to a degree, and in every instance where his army was engaged, did he personally expose himself to danger. After eulogising his merits he stated, that with regard to the female part of Lord Lake's family, his Lordship had left them little or nothing, 1500l. a year. In consideration, however, of his Lordship's most eminent services having been displayed, in India, in 1803, it was intended to propose a pension of 2000l. per annum to the present Lord Lake, and to the two next heirs male, and to make this pension payable, from the 11th of September, 1803. This arrear would make the proper arrangements for the female part of the family. After that Resolution should be carried, he should follow it up by another, for an Address to his Majesty, enabling him to order a Monument to be erected, to perpetuate the memory and services of Lord Lake.

Mr. WHITBREAD objected to the Resolution. He observed that the Noble Lord seemed to have laboured the matter much, and if such a reward was necessary now, how much more necessary was it in 1803, when Lord Lake was alive and susceptible of enjoying the dignities conferred on him, and the liberality of Parliament at the same time. He had another objection to the Resolution; great and splendid rewards were always voted for eminent services, and he contended there was no comparison between the services of the late Lord Howe and the late Lord Lake. He was sorry to learn that Lord Lake's family stood in need of such assistance. He should not, therefore, object to the Vote altogether, only he did not wish to go to such an extent.

Mr. M. A. TAYLOR said he should not object to the Resolution, were it not for the pressure of the times. No man in the existing circumstances of the country ought to load and burden the people; at the same time he thought that something was due to the descendants of a gallant Officer, whose whole professional life for 36 years had been zealously devoted to the service of his country. He understood Lord Lake had returned with upwards of 40,000l. but that was not enough to support his daughters, who would only be allowed 1500l. a year. The Committee ought to do justice, and not suffer his family to pine in obscurity and penury.

General TARLETON supported the motion. It was a question dear to all who entertained ideas of professional honour, and it was a subject highly interesting to the country at large. He then panegyrised Lord Lake's valour in [illegible] York Town, and said that he did not return [illegible] like Lucullus, or as Massena from Italy.

Lord FOLKESTONE spoke against the motion, and said that it came forward on a very disagreeable footing, the poverty of the late Lord Lake. He could not think that assertion well founded, as he had been raised to a Peerage for his eminent services. When such dignity was conferred on him, he surely was entitled to additional emolument. With regard to a monument to Lord Lake's memory, he could not agree, as there was, he believed, no instance of any structure of the kind, unless the person whose memory it was intended to perpetuate died in battle.

Lord TEMPLE differed from the Noble Lord, and observed, he had never known a stronger claim for services of great moment, rewarded by a poverty more honourable. The King was the fountain of all honour, and it was the duty of the House not to suffer those so honoured, or their descendants, to languish in poverty and wretchedness.

Col. WOOD gave to the motion his heartfelt support. If ever there was a gallant Officer, Lord Lake was one. He would enter into no comparison between the merits of Earl Howe and Lord Lake; but great as the services of the former had been, they were equalled by those of Lord Lake.

Mr. W. SMITH would not oppose the motion, but felt inclined to say a few words, from what had already passed. He thought the facts in regard to Lord Lake's property, at the period of his demise, ought to have been better known than they appeared to be; and though it was said Lord Lake brought home 40,000l. yet he understood he had brought home 140,000l. Questions of this kind were generally carried by acclamation, and it would be much wiser were a Committee previously appointed to enquire into the particulars of Lord Lake's means. If Lord Lake was poor, from neglecting opportunities of emolument, he thought such a fact was the brightest jewel in his character. Still the Committee ought to know the facts—dignity ought to attach to a peerage; but independence ought also to appertain to it.

Sir A. WELLESLEY said, that out of the 40,000l. brought home by Lord Lake, 17,000l. had been paid on his Lordship reaching England.

Mr. WHITBREAD said there were radical objections in his mind to the erection of a monument to the memory of Lord Lake. He did not think Lord Lake's services entitled to the distinction of pre-eminent services. The large estate bestowed on the great Duke of Marlborough was not given that illustrious hero because he was poor, but because his services were pre-eminent. Lord Lake was certainly a gallant soldier, and his personal valour was highly worthy of praise.

Sir F. BURDETT opposed the motion on public grounds. He would say, that services which were to be rewarded by a grant of a pension by that House, out to be of a kind super-eminently distinguished and brilliant, and such as ought to ring throughout the land. In these times no demand of this description ought to be made on the people on another constitutional ground, as his Majesty had most ample means in his own possession for rewarding such services, without sending a Message to the House. He was certain, that to reward all the merit the House could lay claim to in that way, that sum would be too little, he meant that sum belonging to the King. It was fitting that the power of dispensing rewards should be invested in the Crown; but such claims ought not to be made on the exhausted people of England. The Crown could reward certain services that never met the light, and those services were never heard of. On this ground, therefore, he should make a stand, and should certainly take the sense of the Committee on the Resolution, as did he not do so, he should feel that he ill executed the duty entrusted to his care. The merits of Lord Lake were certainly not behind those of other Officers in any degree whatever; but were he to express an opinion, he should not approve of the provision attempted to be made for his Lordship's descendants. But what were the merits of the people of

England in enduring all these burdens and privations! To whom were they to look for redress and remedy, in this season of difficulty and embarrassment? Had the people of England no merit in the minds of Ministers? No. But they had as their shield and security, he trusted, the watchful and vigilant jealousy of the House. The merits of the people of England were inferior to the merits of no man.

Here Mr. PERCEVAL spoke to order. The Hon. Bart. he said, might rest assured that Ministers would ever look most watchfully to the King's property, but he surely did not mean to insinuate that in such a case as the present the House ought to be niggardly or parsimonious in rewarding eminent services in this time of peril and dismay. The amount of the King's private property was unknown to him (Mr. P.); but the Hon. Bart. surely did not mean to say he did not know the limits of the Pension List, which was tied down to no grant beyond 1200l. a year, which would not yield nett above 800l.

General GASCOIGNE had had the honour of serving under Lord Lake, and he should not have spoken on the question at all, had it not been that he thought there was something in the arguments of the Hon. Baronet, calculated to excite discontent in the minds of the people.—*(Loud cries of Hear! from Ministers.)* The Hon. Baronet had not looked to the merits or transcendant services of the late Lord Lake, and he differed from him and the Noble Lord opposite (Lord Folkestone) in every point they had stated.

Mr. BANKES stated, that it was impossible for him to resist the pension, though he did not like it so far retrospectively, as 1803. It was a just reward in all cases of merit, and no individual was more entitled to such a reward than Lord Lake. Ministers ought to be cautious whom they advanced to a peerage, as it was improper for persons to be invested with such honours, without adequate means to support that rank. With respect to a monument, such a tribute of respect was never paid but to an Officer killed or who received a mortal wound in battle, and in this instance such was not the case.

Mr. TIERNEY said he was always averse to squandering the public money, and nobody could charge him with ever having voted for such a thing. The first question he thought that ought to be settled was, whether the peerage of Lord Lake had been properly given, then the pension to Lord Lake's heirs would follow of course. He concluded by supporting the motion.

Mr. W. SMITH explained; and wished Sir F. Burdett not to persevere in his intention of dividing the Committee.

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT replied, that it was impossible for him to accede to the wishes of the Hon. Gentleman, as the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Perceval) had designedly misrepresented what he had said when he last spoke. He had stated the pressure of the times, but the Right Hon. Gentleman had carefully abstained from stating the King's *Droits*. The pension proposed was but small, but he still contended the Crown had most ample means of bestowing it. Let the Right Hon. Gentleman look to his own family, and he would find his Majesty had been extremely liberal in rewarding extraordinary merit!! The Right Hon. Gentleman, instead of coming down and telling the House that pensions and reversionary grants were no more, had done the very reverse.—*(Loud cries of Hear! from the Opposition.)* An Hon. Gentleman had disclaimed any political participation with his, Sir Francis's, principles. He did not wish any man to participate with him; he did not wish to displace one set of Ministers to get in another, but he wished to testify and evince that jealousy and anxiety to discharge his duty, which impelled him to that line of conduct which he meant to adopt. He must, however, observe, that the services of Lord Lake were not such as those of the gallant Nelson, nor could the gratitude of the country be better bestowed than in giving one-tenth of the patronage bestowed on Lord Lake to other Officers in the army, who would then become a happy and contented set of men. What was the Committee called on to reward Lord Lake's heirs for, the battle of Delhi! He was resisting this on broad constitutional grounds, and unless Ministers put an end to the patronage of the Crown, there was an end to all improvement. He should not from any false charge of niggardly measures, abstain from his purpose, but should rigidly do his duty by the people of England.—The question was then loudly called for, and the gallery was cleared.

During our exclusion, the Committee divided on the motion in the House.—Ayes, 201; Noes, 26. On the question for a monument to Lord Lake's memory, another division took place—Ayes, 202; Noes, 15.

PEACE.

Mr. WHITBREAD said, that the Commissioners who delivered his Majesty's Speech, gave a hope, that all the Papers respecting the Russian Mediation would be laid before the House, saw with what difficulty they had obtained the few now on the table, which was a convincing proof that Ministers had acted improperly, and was fearful of that reprobation which their conduct so justly merited. We are now arrived at an important crisis, and certainly he must say, that opportunities had been most shamefully neglected when a peace was attainable on honourable terms, through the mediation of Russia. The war in which we are engaged is continued year after year without any hope of its being terminated, without knowing the precise object in contention; but he would call to the recollection of the House the number of petitions which are daily pouring in upon us from the manufacturing towns; and he hoped that would at once open the eyes of Ministers as to the real situation of the country. He was a real friend to freedom, and was glad to see the people exercise the right they possessed of shewing their displeasure at the measures proposed by his Majesty's Ministers. During the American War, such petitions had the desired effect of bringing about a peace with that country, and he anticipated the like result from this instance of public virtue. As for himself, he was a determined advocate for peace, and an avowed enemy to perpetual war. He maintained that peace on honourable terms could be had even at the present moment; what then could be our object in carrying on the war, when it was impossible to distress our enemy in any vulnerable point? Therefore he felt extremely anxious to dispel the cloud of error which prevailed over the people at large, arising from a cause which he would not trace to its original source, but chiefly from a notion that no effort on our part could bring about so desirable an object as what the manufacturers wished. Ministers had exulted in the battles of Eylau and Friedland, and vainly imagined that the career of Bonaparte had been stopped, but the latter battle had occasioned the Peace of Tilsit, consequently put words in his Majesty's mouth, which imported that it was a disastrous calamity to the Russian Empire. Yet it would be seen that the Emperor Alexander had acted wisely. He could not defend himself with an inferior army, notwithstanding the exultation of Ministers. The fact was, he was routed in every direction, therefore it was wise in him to provide for his own safety, and it was equally so in Bonaparte, to stop in the career of glory and safety. The Russian Emperor was, under all these circumstances, so strongly impressed with friendship towards this country that he solicited the French Emperor to terminate the war, and bring about a general peace. Gen. Budberg communicated these circumstances to Lord G. L. Gower. The evidence before the House was a convincing proof of the disposition of the Emperor to mediate in favour of his ally. The offer was not made so as to restrict us in time, which

was left entirely to our own convenience; unhappily, however, the offer was rejected in a manner that gave disgust to the sincerity of his views, by insisting on the disclosure of the secret articles of the Treaty of Tilsit, and renewing the Commercial Treaty. Ministers therefore treated him like a child, as if he had no discretion of his own. Budberg persisted that there was not a single article in the Treaty of Tilsit relating to England, or to exclude its commerce from the Russian ports. But our wise Ministers would not believe this; they charged Budberg with duplicity, and insulted his master, who had been led to the very verge of ruin to espouse our cause. Austria, on the other hand, had been treated with equal contempt, who, so late as November last, offered her good offices to bring about a general peace, communicated to us by desire of Bonaparte? Would Ministers stand up and deny these facts? It was evident that they neglected the means put in their power to obtain peace. The Hon. Member maintained it was not yet too late—it was desirable—and why not comply with the wishes of the people. It was no degradation to apply in direct terms to Bonaparte; then if he refused, he was certain it would unite the people at large, who would consider their privations as nothing. He was equally certain France was as willing to conclude a peace as we were, and he hoped no opportunity would be lost. The war, however, had taken a new turn, and we were wisely told by Ministers that they would compel the enemy to make peace upon any terms, by depriving him of bark. That was the wildest scheme that ever entered the brain of a Minister, and he trusted it would be abandoned. The Hon. Member then submitted the following Resolutions:—

Resolved, 1st. That it is the opinion of this House, that the conditions stipulated by his Majesty's Ministers for the acceptance of the mediation of the Emperor of Russia were inexpedient and impolitic.

2dly, That it is the opinion of this House, that the conduct of his Majesty's Ministers on the refusal of the mediation offered by the Emperor of Austria, was inexpedient and impolitic, and not calculated to ascertain how far the restoration of the blessings of peace might, or might not, have been attainable through the means of such mediation.

3dly, That this House feels it incumbent on itself to declare, that there is nothing in the present circumstances of the war to preclude his Majesty from embracing every fair opportunity of acceding to or commencing a negociation with the enemy, on a footing of equality, for the termination of hostilities, on terms of justice and honour.

Mr. PONSONBY was disposed to blame the conduct of Ministers, in not accepting of the means they had in their power of participating in a general peace; but still he could not agree with the 3d Resolution of his Hon. Friend, as it would be furnishing Bonaparte with the means of holding out terms which we could not accept. He had no idea of the sincerity of Ministers, who had no wish for peace, and all that could be said would have no impression on them.

Mr. WILBERFORCE said, it was impossible for Ministers to accept of the mediation of Russia or Austria, under the circumstances in which they were offered.

Mr. BLATCHFORD opposed the Resolutions on the ground that any peace that could be made in the existing circumstances would risk our commercial ascendancy.

Lord MAHON supported the Resolutions, as they would avert the incalculable evils which would infallibly result from the Orders in Council.

Mr. JOHN SMITH said, this was the most important subject agitated in the present Session. He could not agree with those who opposed the Resolutions, and did the war go on for two years, what would become of two millions of starving manufacturers?

Lord MILTON was surprised at the reason assigned for opposing the motion of his Hon. Friend, namely, that this was an improper period to bring such a measure before the House. He must express quite a contrary opinion. He thought a negociation ought to be entered into, if practicable, without loss of time; but he was sorry to disagree with his Hon. Friend's third Resolution, as he did not conceive that Resolution could be of any use. If the conduct of Ministers had been such as to render it necessary to address his Majesty to have them removed, he would be one of the first to come forward in favour of that proposition; but he did not conceive their conduct, on this subject at least, had been such as to render that step necessary.

Mr. WARD spoke for the motion. He was happy to find his Hon. Friend had brought this great and important subject before the House, and said, he should give it all his support. It was not for him to decide whether his Majesty's Ministers were for peace or war; but he considered the object of peace of such immediate importance, that if there was a possibility of procuring it on fair, equitable, and honourable terms, it ought not to be delayed one single hour. The two great points of policy for this country to pursue were, in his opinion, a Peace with France, and Toleration in Ireland.

Mr. Secretary CANNING replied to the arguments which Mr. Whitbread had urged in support of his motion. He did not think it proper to intrude himself upon the House at an earlier period, because he conceived it to be the duty of his Majesty's Ministers on this subject, to leave it to other Members of the House to express their sentiments before they should themselves take any part in the debate. He expressed his readiness to enter at any time into Negociations for a peace, consistent with the honour and the dignity of the country; but he maintained, that until certain information was received that the French Government was prepared to enter into negociations on an equitable basis, it would be imprudent to attempt any. It was obvious, that if any negociation, which might be undertaken, should fail, peace would be placed at a still greater distance, and the sufferings of the people, which had been so much exaggerated, instead of being diminished, would be augmented. With respect to Austria, it was well known that this country had preferred her friendship, and offered her every indulgence, while she remained in the interest of Great Britain; but when she became under the controul of France, in was no our interest to trust her.—Ministers had determined not to enter upon negociation, unless it was upon a footing that was likely to insure a successful issue. It had been said, that the enmity of France was directed against this country, in consequence of the offers made for peace having been rejected during former Administrations. He would ask, if it was fair that the present Ministers should be responsible for the conduct of others, with whom they had no concern?—This argument applied to the conduct of the Hon. Gentleman's friends who composed the late Administration, and who broke off the last negociation. It was true that the Hon. Gentleman had disagreed with them also on that point, he therefore could not deny him the merit of having acted with consistency.

Mr. WM. SMITH thought the two first Resolutions involved in so much difficulty, that he could not vote for them; but if the third Resolution was to be brought to a division, it should have his vote. He conceived that Ministers, by their own shewing, gave very little hopes of peace. He thought that it would be acting more consistently with the honour, the interest, and the dignity of the country, to enter into negociation now, than at any future period.

Mr. SHERIDAN did not agree with his Hon. Friend who had just sat down. He would vote for all three propositions. It was not surprising that some Gentlemen should have regretted that those who usually acted together should have come into the field less completely drilled than the troops on the other side, since they proposed to vote on grounds so inconsistent. He contended, that Ministers had shewn an aversion to peace in two instances,

and that they ought not to be trusted to reject a third offer. He was sorry to hear a great deal stated respecting commercial distress, from a very respectable quarter; but he was certain that the picture which had been drawn was greatly overcharged. He knew there was no such distress in the country; and if it did exist, he never would avow it; for to hold such language was to capitulate at once. It had been said, to vote the third Resolution would be to encourage petitions for peace. In his opinion it would completely put a stop to them. As it did not appear that the discussion could be terminated this night, he moved that the debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

Mr. ADAM wished that his Hon. Friend (Mr. Sheridan) would withdraw his motion for adjournment. He declared that he would vote for all three propositions.

Mr. SHERIDAN withdrew the motion.

Mr. WHITBREAD replied, after which the House divided on each of the three propositions he had moved, which were all negatived. The following are the numbers which appeared on each division:—

1st Division—Ayes 70——Noes 210.
2d ——— Ayes 67——Noes 211.
3d ——— Ayes 58——Noes 217.

Adjourned at half past five o'clock in the morning.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1.

Mr. PERCEVAL moved the Order of the Day for the House taking into farther consideration the Report of the Committee of Supply of Friday, granting the Army Estimates. A short discussion ensued, when the Resolutions were agreed to.

The adjourned debate on the Oude Papers was, on the motion of Lord FOLKSTONE, postponed till Wednesday se'nnight.

Mr. PONSONBY deferred his motion for certain Papers relative to Copenhagen, until to-morrow week.

Mr. SHARPE deferred his motion for a Vote of Censure on Ministers, from to-morrow until Friday, the 11th instant.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2.

LORD LAKE.

Lord CASTLEREAGH, in calling the attention of the House to the notice respecting a Monument to be erected to the memory of Lord Lake, did not mean to recur to that notice, or again to offer to the House the motion which was the subject of it. Having communicated with many persons devoted to the memory of Lord Lake, he found that it was the general wish of those persons to give way to the difficulties of Parliamentary form that had arisen. The family of the Noble Lord, deeply penetrated with a sense of gratitude for the vote passed the other night, was willing to rest its claims on the public bounty there, than press a point upon which many of those who had voted in approbation of Lord Lake's general merit and services, may be found in opposition. In this feeling he thought it his duty to concede; but he could not help lamenting, that Parliament appeared to have laid it down as a principle, that the glorious testimony of a public Monument was to be confined to the services of those who died in battle. Lord Howe's monument was the only exception to this rule, for that of Lord Cornwallis's stood on entirely distinct grounds. He admitted that the limitation to those who died in battle was a good and convenient general principle. But at the same time, when Monuments were held to be the most appropriate works of public gratitude, as being at the same time most honourable to the deceased, and best calculated to excite emulation in the minds of posterity, it seemed to be a strange exclusion that prevented a Lord Lake, a Lord Rodney, and a Lord Duncan, from being found among the illustrious heroes thus consecrated to fame, while many persons of much inferior rank and merit were so honoured. The distinction would never be asked but for striking examples of merit and service, and the reward may safely be granted without fear of deviating into abuse. It would certainly be no injury to those who fell in battle, to admit to a participation of this honour, those who had equally entitled themselves by victory, and who had no other bar to their claim but that of a greater interval of time between their service and their death. It was not the death but the service that was the proper object of reward.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT wished to know from the Hon. Baronet, who filled the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, whether John Giffard who had been lately appointed Accountant-General to the Board of Customs in Ireland, was the same John Giffard who had been dismissed by Lord Hardwicke, from an inferior office in the Customs, on account of his unwearied exertions to excite dissentions between the Protestants and Catholics of Dublin.

Sir A. WELLESLEY answered, that the Mr. Giffard who was appointed to the office alluded to, was the same that was formerly dismissed from another office, in the same department. But whether he was dismissed for the cause stated by the Right Hon. Baronet, he could not say. He supposed that was not the case, or the present appointment would not have taken place.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3.

Sir J. NEWPORT's motion for the production of a copy of the patent appointing Mr. Giffard to the office of Surveyor of the Customs in Dublin, was negatived by a majority of 46. It appeared that Mr. Giffard had been dismissed by Lord Hardwicke for his vehement opposition to the Catholic claims, and it was contended by the Opposition that Mr. Giffard's appointment to his present station was an insult to the Catholic body, who at all events should be conciliated, if those claims were not granted. Ministers replied, that Mr. Giffard had been improperly dismissed, and his present advancement was only an act of justice.

ROCHEFORT SQUADRON.

Mr. CALCRAFT brought forward his promised motion respecting the squadron under the command of Sir R. Strachan having been under the necessity of quitting Basque Roads from a want of provisions, which had given the Rochefort Squadron an opportunity to escape. He censured the appointment of Lord Mulgrave as First Lord of the Admiralty, and, as a proof of his Lordship's indiscretion, he mentioned the appointment of Sir Home Popham as Captain of the Fleet under Lord Gambier. With regard to the point to which his motion bore, the fact was, that Sir R. Strachan had been compelled to leave Basque Roads for want of a sufficient supply of provisions; and the House would be astonished when he stated, that the gallant Admiral had neither relief, by ships to replace those on the blockade, or by transports with provisions, for a period of ten weeks. After this, Sir Richard quitted his station, and proceeded to cruize in the offing, when he met two British men of war, and the Mediator transport. From these he obtained a supply of provisions, but it did not appear to be sufficient to enable Sir Richard to follow the enemy; nay, he was compelled to draw supplies from the squadron off Ferrol. Sir Richard's squadron was reduced to an allowance of two-thirds, and the ships had scarcely a supply of wine and spirits. He wished Ministers to exculpate themselves from these serious charges. He concluded by moving for the production of a copy of all letters that passed between Sir R. Strachan and Lord Gardner, and for a list of the ships composing the squadron of Sir R. Strachan, before Rochefort, in December, January, and February last.

Mr. WELLESLEY POLE stated, that Ministers were ready to give every information in their power touching the matters stated by the Hon. Gentleman. The situation of Sir Richard Strachan's squadron, the day after the enemy escaped, was not ascertained at home until the 18th

of January; but the Hon. Gentleman had given later accounts: where he had got them he did not know. On that day, however, Sir Richard's ships had been supplied with 10 weeks' bread, 13 or 14 weeks' provisions, and the Mediator transport, as she had been called, was a large man of war fitted up as a provision ship. She sailed on the 6th of January, having been prevented by contrary winds, and on the 18th she delivered to the squadron a large supply of provisions, and 40 live bullocks. It was true, Sir R. Strachan spoke the Ferrol squadron, but he took no provisions from it. Sir Richard had gone in direct pursuit of the enemy, and the charge of the Hon. Gentleman was one of the most unfounded attacks upon Government that had ever been made. He then at great length defended the conduct of the Admiralty, in the promptitude it had displayed in restoring the crews to their respective ships, that had brought home the Danish Navy. These crews had enabled Sir Sidney Smith to sail to the Tagus, and take the Portuguese Government under his protection; and had also enabled that gallant Officer Sir Samuel Hood, to secure the island of Madeira. Before he had heard of the Hon. Gentleman's motion, it was his intention to submit to the House several Resolutions, and lay on the table all the information now required, which would enable the House to judge of the exertions of the Noble Lord at the head of the Admiralty.

Mr. CALCRAFT replied, and maintained that he was still astonished at the silence which had been maintained with regard to the appointment of Sir Home Popham, which had created such general disgust in the navy. When the Papers now sought for were laid before the House, he pledged himself that he would make out a flagrant case of neglect against the Admiralty.—The motion was then agreed to.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

General GASCOIGNE stated, that he held in his hand a Petition from his Constituents in Liverpool, signed by more than 3000 of the most respectable merchants and others against the Orders in Council. It was not his intention to question the propriety of the measure, but he hoped the House would listen to the complaints set forth in this Petition—it was material for the interest of the petitioners to be heard, though contrary to the forms of the House; but the House was fully competent to extend its indulgence. The Orders in Council were severely felt already in Liverpool, by a total loss of the American trade. Last year, no less than 123,000 tons of shipping cleared out for America; the Dock-dues alone amounted to 31,000l, together with 150,000l. annual disbursements. Surely, then, if they were deprived of this trade, it may be reasonably supposed they would look to that House for compensation: he, therefore, concluded by moving for leave to lay the Petition on the table.

The SPEAKER said, it was contrary to the forms of the House to receive a Petition against a Revenue Bill.

Mr. TIERNEY said, the Petition was an important one, and ought to be received, as it shewed already much of the folly that had resulted from the Orders in Council. He reprobated the mode adopted by Ministers, to shut out the complaints of the people of England from that House.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, they were bound to respect the forms of the House, which prevented the prayer of the petition from being received.

Mr. PONSONBY really pitied the Right Hon. Gentleman, for every step he took only tended to expose him to fresh mortification. The Petitioners had a right to be heard, and he trusted the House would not entertain a quibbling argument to the manifest injury of the second commercial town in the British dominion.

Lord CASTLEREAGH took a general view of the subject, and saw no necessity for breaking in on the forms of the House.

In the further progress of the debate, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Whitbread, and Lord H. Petty, spoke in favour of receiving the Petition; and General Tarleton, Mr. Huskisson, and Mr. Rose, against it, when a division took place—Ayes, 80—Noes, 123.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4.

Mr. TIERNEY presented a Petition, signed by three respectable Gentlemen of Liverpool, the delegates of the others in that town, against the Orders in Council. It stated, that their first Petition had been rejected by the House on account of a point of form; and the present one prayed that the Petitioners might be heard by Counsel at the bar, when they would prove by evidence how injurious the Orders in Council had been, and were likely to prove to their interests.

Mr. PERCEVAL objected to receiving it, as it was the same with that rejected last night.

After a few words from the Advocate General against, and Lord Stanley for it, the gallery was cleared, when the House divided—for receiving it 55—Against it 111.—Majority 56.

Mr. ADAM made his promised motion relative to the reading of extracts from Official Papers not before the House; the object of which was to censure the conduct of Mr. Secretary Canning for the official quotations he made in his speech on the late motion of Mr. Ponsonby respecting the Copenhagen expedition.—The Right Hon. Secretary defended the propriety of his conduct.—On a division there was a majority of 101 in his favour, 168 to 67.—Adjourned to Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

Samuel Davis, Bury-street, St. Mary-Axe, merchant, from Feb. 27 to April 10, at ten, at Guildhall.

BANKRUPTS.

Elijah Belcher, Liverpool, merchant, to surrender April 4, 6, 14, at one, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Massey, Exchange-buildings, Liverpool.

Charles Ogden, late of Leeming-within-far-Oxenhope, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted-spinner, March 29, 30, April 12, at eleven, at the Devonshire Arms, Kighley. Attorney, Mr. Delafare, Kighley.

William Morley Heginbotham, Manchester, cotton-spinner, March 12, at one, at the Crown and Anchor Inn, Stockport, April 2, 12, at one, at the Bridgewater Arms Inn, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Fewton, Heaton Norris, near Stockport.

DIVIDENDS.

May 3. J. B. Ball, jun. Kensington, coach-master.—May 3. Home and P. Hunter, Throgmorton-street, merchants.—April 9. L. Boore, Wardour-street, tailor.—March 22. M. Bovi, Piccadilly, printseller.—April 11. J. Smith, Manchester, cotton-merchant.—March 22. R. Cundell, jun, York, common-brewer.—March 30. R. Cliff, Little Bolton, Lancashire, muslin-manufacturer.—March 23. S. Walker, Leeds, malster.—March 23. J. Tutin and J. Wareing, Leeds, merchants.—April 2. T. Squire, and T. Squire, jun. Stoke-Damerell, Devonshire, tin-plate-workers.—March 12. W. Wall, Oxford-street, hosier.—April 5. R. Withington, Stockport, Cheshire, muslin-manufacturer.—March 23. R. Watmough and R. W. Clapham, Liverpool, soap-boilers.—April 4. A. C. Banks, Plymouth Dock, druggist.—April 2. C. Haneman, High Holborn, furrier.—April 1. W. Booth, Holcome Brook, Lancashire, shopkeeper.—March 30. T. Satterthwaite, Manchester, merchant.

CERTIFICATES—MARCH 22.

T. Bradshaw, St. Martin's-le-Grand, shoemaker.—W. M. Martin, Gosport, bookseller.—J. Coward, Ulverston, ironmonger.—T. Yeats, London, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette details the particulars of the capture of the Danish Government brig, Admiral Yawl, mounting 12 eighteen-pound caronades and 16 six-pound guns, with 83 men, victualled and stored for 5 months, by his Majesty's sloop Sappho, Capt. Langford. The Danish man of war appearing to be cutting off several English vessels, the Sappho made the signal No. 275, when she hoisted an English ensign, but on firing a shot over her, she returned a broadside with round and grape, after hoisting Danish colours. The Sappho immediately bore down and brought her to close action, which was obstinately sustained for half an hour, when she struck, after losing her Second Officer and one man. The Sappho had her Pilot and one man wounded.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

John Wilkins and Thomas Lacey, London, factors.

BANKRUPTS.

William Bedford and Samuel Sumner, Foster-lane, London, linen-drapers, to surrender March 15, 22, April 16, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Drake, Old Fish-street.

Charles Lewis Lund, Old Jewry, London, factor, March 8, at twelve, 19, April 16, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Swain, Stevens, and Maples, Old-Jury.

Samuel Brewerton East, Old Jewry, London, factor, March 8, at twelve, 19, April 16, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Swain, Stevens, and Maples, Old Jewry.

Hayter Kinch, jun. and James Kinch, Fareham, Southamptonshire, timber-merchants, March 22, at three, 23, at eleven, April 16, at one, at the Red Lion Inn, Fareham. Attornies, Messrs. Paddon and Barney, Fareham.

William Augustus Downs, Brewer-street, Golden-square, undertaker, March 8, 19, April 16, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Dyne. Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street.

Lewis Lewis, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linen-draper, March 15, 22, April 16, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Swain, Stevens, and Maples, Old Jewry, London.

William Rickman, Northampton, linen-draper, March 12, at twelve, 19, at eleven, April 16, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Wilkinson and Church, White-Lion-street, Spitalfields, London.

Lawrence Able, Dean-street, Westminster, victualler, March 12, 19, at ten, April 16, at one, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Parker, Young, and Hughes, Essex-street, Strand.

James Reid, of Broad-street, underwriter, March 12, at eleven, 15, and April 16, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Spottiswoode, No. 15, Token-house-yard.

James Hiley, Leeds, York, dealer and chapman, March 28, 31, and April 16, at eleven, at the Star and Garter Inn, Leeds. Attornies, Messrs. Lee, Leeds; Mr. Battye, Chancery-lane, London.

David Briggs, Walterclough, Yorkshire, clothier, March 28, April 1, 16, at ten, at the Golden Lion, Leeds. Attorney, Mr. Blackburn, Leeds.

William Bacon, Sheffield, Yorkshire, grocer, March 23, 24, April 16, at two, at the Tontine Inn, Sheffield. Attorney, Mr. Rodgers, Sheffield.

DIVIDENDS.

May 14. W. Heath, Chippenham, clothier.—April 9. H. Nicholson, Bishopsgate-street, silk-mercer.—April 22. A. Bagshaw, North Walsham, shopkeeper.—March 28. T. Smith, Mawdesley, tanner.—April 2. S. Payne, Chelsea, coal-merchant.—March 26. T. Susham, Creak, hawker.—May 3. T. Ramsey, sen. Crosby-row, Bermondsey, broom-maker.—March 30. R. J. E. H. and J. Swaine, Halifax, and H. Ramsbotham, Bradford, manufacturers.—March 1. J. O. Parr, London, insurance-broker.

CERTIFICATES—March 26.

G. Griffen, Tooley-street, Southwark, sacking-manufacturer.—W. Nicholls, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, clothier.—J. Jackson, Newington-Causeway, Surrey, brush-maker.—R. Stracey and J. Oliver, Cateaton-street, London, factors.—D. Atchison, Weedon Beck, Northamptonshire, draper.—R. Nesbitt, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer.—J. Canning, Birmingham, plater.—G. Grimes, Great Warner-street, Cold Bath Fields, linen-draper.—J. Kay, J. Watson, sen. P. Catterall, and D. Ainsworth, Preston, machine-makers.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

Consols.....63 ⅞ 64.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor regrets that the press of temporary matter must delay the letter of THESPIS till the next paper, in which it shall undoubtedly appear.

C. M.'s letter in defence of the Marquis WELLESLEY in the next.

The substance of the letter from JUSTICE also in the next.

The Editor returns his thanks for the letter of A. TRUST, and will take an early opportunity to visit the *incomparable* house, which has hitherto scarcely presented itself to his observation.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:

SUNDAY, MARCH 6.

It is at length firmly believed that the Rochfort squadron has passed into the Mediterranean, and there is a report also, that it has reached the Fleet at Toulon. This is worthy of notice. NAPOLEON still calls his brother JOSEPH King of the Two Sicilies, and it is very probable that the two armaments are designed to act in conjunction against Sicily; perhaps the force is directed against Turkey, or Heaven knows, against Egypt, for Egypt has become dearer to the Emperor from its difficulty of possession. At any rate, it would be the duty of the Government, should there be positive information of the squadron's arrival, to assist Sir RICHARD STRACHAN with a force that might enable him to cope with the united enemy. A letter from Gibraltar states that Sir RICHARD is at a considerable distance from the object of his pursuit.

Some unimportant intelligence has arrived from the Continent. Russia, it seems, had not yet declared war against Sweden when the last accounts arrived at Gottenburgh on the 22d February: but nobody entertained the least doubt of an approaching declaration. BERNADOTTE, in the mean time, according to some accounts, is making preparations at Copenhagen for the reception of a French army of 40,000 men in Zealand. Wherever a French General comes, he

brings intrigue with him: it is the concealed weapon with which he attacks his unsuspecting friends, and one may easily conceive the complete subjection to which this emissary of NAPOLEON will speedily reduce the Danish court.

Mr. WHITBREAD, who possesses the first qualities of a true orator because he knows how to unite fine feeling with strong argument, has brought forward his motion for proposals of peace to France. Every body must be ready to acknowledge the hardships of the manufacturing classes, who lose by the war their very means of paying towards the war, and they should undoubtedly have the freest of passages to Parliamentary petition. But Mr. WHITBREAD's anxiety for peace seems to have rendered him too sanguine in attributing the same anxiety to the French Emperor. NAPOLEON, in his full pride and ambition, will not easily forget his old inclinations for Turkey and Egypt, and as it is to be supposed that during a peace he would still pursue his plans for their subjugation, the slightest suspicion of those plans would hurry England back again into hostilities. This subject will be considered at large in the First Article of next Sunday's Paper.

The French have contrived to throw a reinforcement of 500 men into Martinique. They were conveyed by two frigates.

The Expedition preparing for the Baltic is in great forwardness. Not less than 350 transports will be employed to convey the troops.

The Duke of Montrose packet was taken, on the 12th of December, 200 miles to windward of Barbadoes, by the Confiance, of five guns, after an action of three hours. Capt. DYNALLY, the mate, and four of the packet's men, were killed; the master and one man were wounded. The privateer had five men killed and many wounded. The privateer carried her prize into Guadaloupe. The West India seas swarm with French privateers.

The following is a statement of our squadrons in the Channel and in the Mediterranean:—

Off Brest, under Rear-Admiral Bertie	10
Off Ferrol, under Commodore King	3
Off Lisbon, under Vice-Admiral Sir C. Cotton	12
Off Cadiz, under Rear-Admiral Purvis	10
At Gibraltar, refitting	3
Off Toulon, under Vice-Admiral Lord Collingwood	9
In pursuit in the Straits, under Sir R. Strachan	7
Off Sicily, under Rear-Admiral Thornborough	6
Total	—60

Besides frigates and smaller vessels.

BRITISH NAVAL FORCE.—This, according to the Report made up to March 1, consists of 85 sail of the line, 11 fifties, &c. 121 frigates, 318 sloops, gun-brigs, &c.—Total at sea, 536.—In Commission, 144 sail of the line, 21 fifties, &c. 175 frigates, 434 sloops, &c.—Total, 774.—Building and in ordinary 110 sail of the line, 15 fifties, &c. 89 frigates, 103 sloops, &c.—Grand Total 1081 ships of war.

A Court of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, at which the price of Bread was ordered to be raised to 11½d the quartern loaf.

Ministers expect that with the sum received from the Bank, they will be able to carry on the public business until April, and that the loan then will not exceed 6,000,000l. To this circumstance, and the daily purchase of 100,000l. by the Commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, is attributed the steady state of the funds in the present extraordinary juncture.

The Captain of a vessel which has just arrived from a Dutch port, states the prevalence of a report throughout the Continent, that BONAPARTE is about to attempt the execution of his long promised project for the establishment of a King of Jerusalem; and that the Court of Constantinople will, according to appearances, acquiesce in the plan.

The following account of Prince STAHREMBERG's reception at Paris, we copy from a morning paper:—"Prince STAHREMBERG was received by the Emperor NAPOLEON with extreme coldness. The Princess STAHREMBERG requested a private introduction, on account of her indisposition; but the Prince himself having no such plea, was presented at the *cercle*. BONAPARTE, no doubt, remembering the Prince's former language, turned from him with only a slight glance of his eye. Her IMPERIAL MAJESTY's reception of him was still more singular. She asked him what he thought of Madame GRASSINI as a singer? He was much struck with the question—but answered, that she sung incomparably. "Have you yet heard her in Paris?" "No!" And here the conversation ended. Could any Empress or Queen, though bred from infancy to the art, display *finesse* more adroitly?"

OPERA DISPUTE.—Yesterday, the Lord CHANCELLOR gave his promised judgment in this case, which was as follows:—His Lordship observed, that he had gone over the proceedings on the principal points, and he had minutely weighed the arguments of Counsel, therefore his present judgment would be decisive. There were two main points on which he had been called on to interfere, one of which was to appoint a Manager in the room of Mr. TAYLOR, and the other to nominate a person to receive the rents and profits of the Theatre, and make the necessary disbursements. In the appointment of a Manager, the Court could not interfere, the deed of 1803 being altogether so contradictory in its provisions, that a Manager of his Lordship's appointment could not interfere by the virtue of the deed, and consequently it would lead to the immediate shutting up of the Theatre. With respect to the second point, that of nominating a receiver of the rents and profits of the Theatre, his Lordship observed, that if the parties could point out to him how a person so appointed could with safety to himself undertake to receive and make disbursements of the monies which necessarily would fall to his lot, he would willingly hear them; but it was impossible that any person could interfere whilst the deed of 1803 existed, and therefore his Lordship observed, that he could not hear any more of the business.

Mr. WEST has just finished a small picture of the *Death of Nelson* in the Cock-pit. It possesses all the pathos this interesting subject demands, and is drawn with the unrivalled accuracy and energy of the President.

Lord Lake.—Mr. Paull has addressed a letter to the Electors of Westminster, upon the subject of the pension of 2000l. a year to the two next heirs male bearing the title of Lord Lake. It states, that the late Lord Lake, independent of his regiment and the government of Plymouth, was appointed, in 1800, Commander in Chief and Senior Member of the Council of Bengal, with a fixed salary, exclusive of powerful patronage, and the means of providing for his family, of 16,000l. *per annum*, paid *monthly*, in a country where the legal interest is 12l. per cent. Early in 1801 his Lordship arrived in Bengal, and, previous to August, 1803, he had saved enough to pay into the hands of Mr. John Rudd 38,000l. being the amount of the whole of his debts. At this period, and after this payment, he took the field against the Mahrattas, and received, as his share of the prize-money, resulting from the victories of Allegheer, Delhi, and Agrah, a sum of at least 130,000l. From Sept. 1803, to April, 1807, he received a farther sum of 56,000l.; the whole, including the payment to Mr. Rudd, making a sum of 224,000l. exclusive of interest of 12l. per cent. Exclusive of this sum, his son, Lieut.-Col. George Augustus Lake, who went out with his Lordship to India as Military Secretary, received 8000l. a year, paid monthly, while living in the house of his father, amounting, in six years, to 48,000l. besides interest, making, with 15,000l. prize-money, a total of 63,000l. which, added to the sums received by the late Lord Lake, makes an aggregate of upwards of 300,000l. in six years. This statement Mr. Paull avers is accurately true; and upon this ground he contends, that there was no apparent necessity for the grant of 2000l. a year. He states, however, as matter of general rumour, that his Lordship had disposed of his wealth in a most extraordinary manner, by the purchase of an annuity, which must have died with him.

A duel took place at nine o'clock yesterday morning on Dropmore Common, near Moredon, between Lieut. H——, an officer belonging to a dragoon regiment, and Mr. R——, a student at Westminster, in consequence of a disagreement in Berkeley-square on Friday, respecting an affair of gallantry. The lady who had caused the disagreement gave information on Friday evening that the duel was to take place on Finchley Common, but the parties eluded pursuit by settling their difference on another spot. The Lieutenant was wounded slightly in the pistol hand the second fire, and the parties returned to London in post chaises.

Dr. Johnson had such an antipathy to riding, that when he was asked to take an airing on horseback, he replied, in what Lord Pomfret called his *bow-wow way*, "Sir, I would as soon hire a porter to kick me by way of airing."

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

On Wednesday his Majesty held a private Levee, at which the following had the honour of being presented:—

General Tarleton, as Governor of Berwick; Colonel Harbord, as Lord Lieutenant of the County of Norfolk; Earl Mount Edgecumbe, as Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners; and Lord Selsey, upon coming to his title.

The report that his Majesty's sight is again so much affected as to render an operation necessary, is not true; the King's sight continues rather to mend than otherwise.

FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

A round walking dress of white cambric, or brown velvet, made to sit close to the form, laced behind, and reaching to the edge of the throat, where it is finished with a broad plaiting of French net, or antique ruff of scolloped lace. Long full sleeves, trimmed at the edge of the wrist with correspondent cuff, and broad hair or coral bracelet. A Zealand coat of ruby purple, or crimson velvet, made without a collar; flowing loose from the shoulders, and tied or confined with a brooch in the centre of the bosom; ends rounded in front, and reaching the bottom of the petticoat behind; trimmed entirely round with a full and rich ermine. Turban hat of the same material as the coat, tutued up all round, bordered with ermine, and tied round the crown with a figured satin rib-band. Hair cropt behind, and flowing in irregular curls in front. Shoes of crimson velvet; and gloves of York tan.

The thirst for novelty has induced our Jewellers to introduce rather a repellent ornament by way of broach, in the form of insects; surely this is a stretch of invention more novel than pleasing; the bosoms of delicate females will naturally shrink from the idea of countenancing so monstrous a decoration. In the article of trinkets we have discovered nothing striking or novel since our last communication; shells suspended from rich chains of gold, the oriental armlets, and treble bracelets, are distinguishable amidst the endless variety offered to our view.

The prevailing colours are purple, shaded greens, Devonshire browns, crimson, and yellow; coquelicot and morone are on the decline.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER

No. 10.

THE NEW FARCE CALLED IN AND OUT OF TUNE.—IT'S UTTER WANT OF ORIGINALITY AND SPIRIT.—THE DISGUST ARISING FROM STAGE-NEGROES.

DRURY-LANE.

The theatres have produced very little worthy of notice during the last week. It is unfortunate for Drury-lane, that the new farce called *In and Out of Tune*, which was performed for the first time on Tuesday, has appeared just after the production of Mr. Allingham's neat little piece at Covent-garden. It appears strange, that the managers could not properly estimate a production, which is entirely composed of old farces and pantomimes. If nature is not at all required in a farce, one has a right to expect something new at least: if a mere jumble will be endured, one may reasonably look for some new collocation of materials, some new aspect or figure in the fantastic cinders; but in the new farce every thing is old and common, you see precisely what you have seen before, you hear exactly what you have heard; and after paying attention to a scene or two, you unconsciously look around you with that kind of social yawn which seems to say "How do the audience go on?"

The story hangs upon the misfortunes of an old attorney, whose family are music mad. Wherever he goes about the house, he is assaulted by voice and by instrument: the daughter sings, the female Scotch visitor sings, the maid sings, the son plays the fiddle, and the black servant sends his life and soul through a trumpet. On a similar occasion the musician of HOGARTH was enraged because he had an ear, but the old lawyer is quite as enraged with no ear at all. His passion indeed tempts him to be very violent to the ladies, and he not only kicks the negro, but breaks a piano to pieces and lays about him before the females with a stick. All this will remind our readers of twenty bad farces and tolerable pantomimes. There is a lover of course, who intrigues a little and according to ancient custom, appears before the old gentleman in the last scene with his wife in his hand and with a very impudent kind of humility. There was also a Scotch young lady, who was a very direct though miserable imitation of *Lady Rodolpha Lumbercourt* in the *Man of the World*. This lady, a mere visitor in the family, appeared to be introduced for the sole purpose of enabling that excellent actress Miss DUNCAN to shew her knowledge of the Scottish dialect, which she certainly did shew to the perfect satisfaction of every thing but our love of elocution. The other attempts at character, which is always reduced by bad writers to mere manner or habit, consisted of a musical negro and that most ancient of modern farci-comic personages, a gallant Irishman who makes bulls on purpose and always contrives in his soliloquies to start something about a sweetheart, upon which said sweetheart he instantly begins to sing. As to the manners of a stage-negro, I can conceive nothing on the stage more disgusting: if the whole expression of his countenance consists of a darkness visible, his whole speech and humour consists of the eternal repetition of the word *Massa;—Massa, me go—Massa, me vill*—and *Massa, me tink*. A character like this is calculated to please none but the most ignorant of the mob, who may feel perhaps a miserable pride in seeing a human being more ignorant than themselves. How infinitely are such actors as JOHNSTONE and MATHEWS to be pitied, when they are compelled to represent such inanities! I really felt a sentiment of shame at seeing the inimitable representative of *Sir Fretful Plagiary* converted into a black idiot, whose whole business was to say *Massa* and to struggle with the obstinacy of a French horn. The rest of the dialogue consisted of the old mixture of puns and other dreary pleasantries. ANNIBAL CARACCI used to say "Give me a good outline, and you may fill up the middle as you please." CONGREVE and FLETCHER, or FOOTE and GARRICK, would not have said this to the modern dramatists.

Some very neat music by CORRI, was, as usual, thrown away upon the songs. The quintette, in which the watchmen sung, reminded me strongly of a favourite lesson by PURCELL. The author is reported by some, and denied by others, to be Mr. CHERRY; but I must do Mr. CHERRY the justice to say, that I never saw any thing of his quite so bad.

[Since the foregoing Criticism was written, I have received a letter from Mr. D. LAWLER, in which that gentleman tells me that he is author of a farce called the *Musical Family*, and that this farce, his own proper offspring, has been "robbed, maimed, and disfigured," till it has become the new afterpiece called *In and out of Tune*. The present Paper would not allow room for Mr. LAWLER's description of the original incidents of his farce, and perhaps it would be to his interest to suppress their publication entirely: but he seems to have been treated with great indelicacy and injustice; and how any persons could put a dramatic production into the hands of Mr. CHERRY for *emendation*, it is not easy to discover: it appears to me that they might as well attempt to polish mahogany with a currycomb.]

☞

THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—The Managers of the King's Theatre endeavour to make up in variety what is wanted in excellence. Another new comic opera has been already produced, the music by FIORAVANTI, called "*Il Furbo contro il Furbo*," which the *poet*, by whom the operas are "done into English", has translated with some licence into "*Diamond cut Diamond*." The plot is taken from LE SAGE's comedy of "*Crispin Rival de son Maitre*," and possesses much more interest than is usually given to the Italian operas. Little praise is due to FIORAVANTI for it's success, the music being of a very inferior nature, and totally devoid of that beauty of melody which is so essential to vocal compositions. The songs are harsh, and adapted to shew the singer's abilities more than those of the composer, being little else than a collection of rapid passages, which it is easy to write, and which are at all times more astonishing than pleasing.

CATALANI acted *Rosina* with great spirit, and represented the assumed dignity of a female elevated by an unexpected acquisition of property from a low situation in life, with considerable humour; but as a singer she did not succeed so well as usual. She was resolved to prevent the other performers from being heard, and exerted her Stentorian voice with all the force of which it is capable. This is unmerciful: it is like a strong man shewing his power by knocking his friends down. The principal art in singing in parts is the accommodation of the strong voices to the weak, that the whole may be heard distinctly; it is this art which renders the glee singing of the Vocal Concerts superior to any other, and the want of it constitutes the principal defect of amateurs, who generally seem to strive who can sing loudest. MORELLI was very humourous in his performance of the father of *Rosina*, a character much resembling *Lord Duberly* in COLMAN's five act farce of the *Heir at Law*; and was particularly successful in the scene where he is enraged at the perversity of his daughter, but gradually softened into tenderness and tears by her conciliating song of *Papa non dite no*. Madame DUSSECK appears quite pitiable upon the stage; the indecision of her action, the vacancy of her countenance, her inaccuracy and inattention, reduce her below every other performer. She is very imprudent in continuing to perform, as she is injuring her reputation as a singer, as well as destroying the effect of the operas. The other performers did their best, but were, with the exception of ROVEDINO, very bad.

The music is said to be altered by FERARI, who possesses the same defects as a composer that are observable in FIORAVANTI. The latter does not appear to have advanced far in musical science, and displays throughout a remarkable poverty of invention; he has none of that sportive fancy in his accompaniments that is so admirably adapted to the comic opera; in which I consider PAISIELLO to surpass every other composer.

A new divertissement also has been produced called *La Fete Chinoise*, consisting of a variety of spirited dances accompanied with a selection of very beautiful music; but it is really astonishing that M. D'EGVILLE should have selected China as a country for dancers. Who ever heard of a *pas deux* by Chinese ladies; who would be shocked at the idea of being able to walk, and consider the firmness of foot necessary to dancing, as great a deformity as a hump back is in England. Mr. D'EGVILLE is determined that Mr. CHERRY shall not make the nation exclusively his own; but he is certainly imprudent, and should know that Mr. CHERRY curses the day when he first gave vocal powers to his Chinese Travellers. The costume of China is totally disregarded in this divertissement. The inhabitants of that wonderful country are singular in their manners and dress; but they do not understand the mingled grace and contortion of French dancing, nor do they wear upon their heads the roofs of pagodas! H. R.

MISCELLANEOUS SKETCHES.

UPON TEMPORARY SUBJECTS, &c.

UPON THE HETEROGENEOUS WHIMSICALITY OF NAMES.

The names of men cannot always be defined as certain sounds by which we *know* those about us. Fortune seems to have intended, by her whimsical distribution of them, sometimes to shew the nothingness of a bad name to great men, and sometimes the nothingness of a good name to men of indifferent character. I could not help smiling the other day, when I considered the uneasiness with which the Hollanders would receive the Prince of *Welcome* (BENEVENTO.) We all know how all parties have suffered by the Emperor *Good-part* or *Good-side*, (BUONAPARTE,) and I need not descant upon the number of idle men in our nation among the *Swifts* and the *Quicks*, upon the bed-loving souls among the *Hunts* and the *Hunters*, upon the heavy *Golightlys*, the vivacious *Onslows* and *Heavy-sides*, the melancholy *Joys*, *Gladmans*, *Merrys* and *Merry-weathers*, the clever *Stocks* and *Stones*, the dark *Whites*, and the fair *Browns* and *Blacks*.

In feudal times when men were named from their estates, and in very ancient times when they were named from some peculiar feature in their mental or personal character, appellations could not have been so inconsistent: but the Greeks who were fond of anticipating the greatness of their offspring by giving them pompous names, were very often sadly humourous, With the word love especially they made sad work. Their *Lovers-of-horses* (Philippoi) who never cared for a horse, their *Brotherly-Lovers* (Philadelphoi) who cut the throats of their family, and their *Lovers-of-the-people* (Philolaoi) who oppressed the whole community, deserved their appellations quite as much as the great majority of their lovers of wisdom (Philosophoi,) who disputed so fiercely about the nonentity of pain or the lawfulness of eating beans. But the Greek names would be an endless subject. I shall merely observe, that the Athenian populace must have been sometimes grievously annoyed to see the Philosopher *Heavenborn* (Diogenes) make such a beast of himself.

The Romans were subject, like ourselves, to the incongruities of hereditary names; and whether, as the learned dispute, the word *Cæsar*, which was originally Phœnician, signified an *elephant* or *red-hair*, it must be remembered that the great *Carrots* or the great *Elephant* (Julius Cæsar) was a small set man with a bald head. I need not tell of those celebrated warriors and geniuses the *Sticks* (Scipiones). All the world have heard of the daring exploits of the illustrious General *Mouse* (Decius Mus), and it is rather singular, that some of the most temperate beings in the whole Roman history were their great *Hogs* (Porcii quasi *Porci* Catones).

The modern Italians, who have shewed such a genius for burlesque, may be allowed a little extravagance in their names; but not to mention the number of treacherous fellows whom history has handed down to us among the *Well-wishers* (Bentivogli), the *Good-fellows* (Buoncompagni) and the *Good-friends* (Buonamici), it was really carrying the joke too far when an ugly and unpolite, though celebrated writer, went by the name of the *Polished Angel* (Angelo Poliziano), and when a scoundrel of a statuary, mentioned by BENVENUTO CELLINI, and whom we must not confound with the great sculptor and painter, called himself the *Angel Michael* (Michel Angelo). Hermolaus the *Barbarian* (Barbarus) was on the contrary one of the most learned and polite men of the fifteenth century; but then the Popes have taken a very unwarrantable liberty with their delegated omnipotence. Reasonable Christians must have been astonished to see a succession of old profligates who called themselves *Blessed* and *Pious* (Benedetto e Pio). The climax, however, was wound up by His Holiness Pope *Innocent* the Eighth, who was certainly the first Vicar of Christ that publicly boasted of his natural children.

As to the French, they seem to have paid as misplaced a homage to the Christian faith, as their neighbours. It was comparatively nothing to hear of that sweet poet *Crow* (Corneille), of that intrepid soldier *Cricket* (Grillon), or of so many illustrious *Heads* (Capets) who wanted brains. I would not care so much even for the oppression and cruelty of that sanguinary Revolutionist *Saint Just*, or the Holy and Just, whose name reminds me of our own dissipated infidel *Saint John* (Lord Bolingbroke). But it is really time to close my article when I consider the scandalous lives which have been led by so many *Saint Peters* and *Holy Crosses* (St. Pierre and St. Croix). I am astonished these men were not burnt for thus ridiculing the church in the dominions of His Most Christian Majesty.

G.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Friday, March 4.

GREGSON *v.* THEAKER.

The defendant was convicted of adultery with the wife of the plaintiff, an eminent Solicitor in Throgmorton-street, to whom he was coachman. The abandoned woman was possessed only by unruly lusts, which made her lavish of her embraces to *any one*, and a devotee of the bottle. Her wantonness in seducing the servant might palliate, but could not justify his crime of continuing at once to violate fidelity to his master and defile his bed, of injuring instead of protecting him. As an editor for the public should be a guardian of the public morals, a detail of the gross indecencies of Mrs. Gregson shall be withheld, but not the finger of scorn, which will for ever be pointed at her. It would be creditable to Mr. H. Thornton, were he to move for a law to punish this most pernicious vice with public whipping at the cart's tail. It would be more effectual than fines.—Damages 200*l*.

POLICE.

MANSION-HOUSE.

On Monday, —— *Vining*, principal shopman of Messrs. Rundell and Bridge, jewellers, Ludgate-street, was charged with having robbed their extensive property of various quantities of plate, and other articles, and fraudulently receiving the amount of bills from various of their respectable customers, to the amount of several hundred pounds; he confessed his guilt, and the Lord Mayor's officers searched his house, where some of the property was found. He was committed.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.

Three young *Ladies*, daughters of Melpomene, were on Tuesday charged with breaking open the apartments of a Mrs. Head, in Paddington, and stealing nineteen dresses. The prosecutrix stated, that the door of her apartments had been forced during her absence, and suspicion falling on the prisoners, who resided in the house (and are actresses belonging to a private corps,) they were searched, and duplicates of the property found on them. Several of the dresses had been altered for the characters of *Belvidera, Clara, Lady Teazle*, &c. but the prosecutrix identified them. They were remanded.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

On Wednesday evening an inquest was held at the Marquis of Granby, Castle-street, on the body of M. le Comte de Feutiere, formerly a Colonel in the service of Louis XVI, who was found dead on the preceding day, at his apartments in the same street. Agnes Laura, who attended the deceased, deposed that he had been ill about a fortnight; that he was about a week confined to his room; but on Monday last, finding himself somewhat better than he had been, he gave the witness permission to go home to her family until the following afternoon. She did so, and, upon her return, found the door fastened; she knocked and called repeatedly, but received no answer. She then brought the Marquis de Fitz James, an intimate friend of the deceased, to the house, who had the door broken open. The deceased was then seen with his clothes on, sitting up in his chair, with his head reclining on one shoulder. His hands and stomach were warm. Sticks were laid in the grate for lighting a fire, but it was not lighted; a mould candle was found to be burnt out, as it stood upon the hearth. There was no appearance of violence whatever, by which the cause of death could be even surmised. N. Daniel, and J. Homer, the landlord of the house in which the deceased had lodged, corroborated the testimony of the former witness.—Verdict, died by the visitation of God.

Tuesday se'nnight, the Rev. Dr. Hayes, of Dublin, having dined at the Black Rock, on his way home, unluckily took a fancy to the Strand as the course by which to return. Being dark, the tide also coming in, he missed the usual route, and passed over, swimming his horse great part of the way, to the battery at the Pigeon-house, where the gentleman and horse became victims to his imprudence.

A few days since, Capt. F. Smith, of the Royal City of Dublin Militia, quartered at Auchnacloy, put a period to his existence, by shooting himself through the head with a pistol.

On Tuesday an inquest was held at the King's Arms, Oxford-street, on the body of a child four years of age, who was burnt to death the preceding day, in Duke-street. Her mother had left her a few minutes in her apartment, in the care of another child, while she stept out on an errand, and on her return found her clothes in a blaze, whereby she sustained so much injury as to cause her death in about two hours.—Verdict, accidental death.

On Sunday Wm. Edwards, 15 years of age, having incurred the displeasure of his father, in Checquer-alley, Bunhill-row, who was about to chastise him, when, to escape it, he run to the top of the house, and his father following him, a scuffle ensued, when the unfortunate youth fell into the street. He was conveyed to St Bartholomew's Hospital shockingly bruised. The grief of the father was great.

MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday, at Hampstead Church, R. Davenport, of the Inner Temple, Esq. Barrister at Law, to Sophia, the daughter of John Longley, Esq. of Hampstead.

James Willis, Esq. of Upper Guildford-street, and one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, to Miss Revett, the only daughter of the late James Revett, Esq. of Brooks Hall, Essex.

Captain Christian, of the Royal Navy, eldest son of the late Sir R. Christian, K. B. to Harriet, second daughter of the late Samuel Shute, Esq. of Fern Hill, in the Isle of Wight.

At Acomb, near York, Thomas Cajetan Ragland, Esq. to Miss Eliza Birch, of Acomb Hall, daughter of the late Samuel Ogdon Birch, Esq. of Manchester.

DEATHS.

On Sunday evening last, at White Roding, Essex, the Rev. Sir Wm. Cheere, Bart. at the advanced age of 78 years; the bulk of his fortune devolves to his two nieces. The title becomes extinct.

On Monday, at Clapham, in the 65th year of his age, Mr. Henry Lasher Gardner, late of the Strand, bookseller.

A few days since, at Framlingham, Suffolk, after many years afflicting illness, Mrs. Pritchard, wife of John Pritchard, Esq. youngest daughter of the late, and sister to the present Sir Willoughby Aston, Bart.

Mr. James Kemp, shopkeeper, at Chailey, near Lewes. He was so corpulent as to weigh upwards of 27 stone.

On Tuesday morning, at the house of his grandfather, the Duke of Buccleugh, Whitehall, Lord Scott, the infant son of the Earl of Dalkeith. This promising young nobleman sickened with the measles at Eton School, of which disease he departed this life.

On the 17th ult. in the 59th year of his age, at his house, Kingsland-place, after a short illness, T. Jones, Esq. formerly of Green-street, Enfield Highway.

On the 15th ult. in the 62d year of his age, at his house, Turkey-street, Enfield, Mr. J. Pateshall, of Fenchurch-street.

Printed and published by JOHN HUNT, at the EXAMINER Office, 15, Beaufort Buildings, Strand.—Price 7½d.